Message Text

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2.1

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8788

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MILI, NATO, CA

SUBJ: COMMONS QUESTION ON LONG RANGE PATROL AIRCRAFT (LRPA) PROCUREMENT

1. FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE IN COMMONS QUESTION PERIOD FEB 9: MR. ALLAN B. MCKINNON (PC - VICTORIA): QUOTE: MR. SPEAKER, IN THE ABSENCE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND SERVICES AND HIS PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY I WILL ADDRESS MY SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE. CAN THE MINISTER ADVISE THE HOUSE IF HE HAS OVERCOME THE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE PREVENTED THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND SERVICES SIGNING THE CONTRACT FOR THE LONG RANGE PATROL AIRCRAFT WITH LOCKHEED AND COULD HE GIVE THE HOUSE A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF WHAT WAS MEANT BY "TECHNICAL PROBLEMS", A TERM USED BY THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND SERVICES IN THE HOUSE LAST MONDAY IN REPLY TO A SOMEWHAT SIMILAR QUESTION.

2. HON. JAMES RICHARDSON (MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE): MR. SPEAKER, MY COLLEAGUE THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND SERVICES IS COMPLETING THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH LOCKHEED AND IT IS EXPECTED HE WILL BE ABLE TO FINALIZE THE CONTRACT IN A VERY FEW DAYS. JOHNSON

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